GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2202
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
LEGISLATION ON UNORGANISED LABOUR
SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any plans to bring out legislation to protect the interest of the unorganised labour;

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, the other steps proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of the unorganised labourers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) to (c): A statement is annexed.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) - (C) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2202 FOR 12.03.2001 BY SHRI SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK REGARDING LEGISLATION ON UNORGANISED LABOUR.

(a) to (c): There is no proposal to bring out a legislation to protect the interests of an categories of workers in the unorganised sector as a whole. However, the Government have enacted a number of labour laws for protection of the interests of labour including unorganised labour. Some of these laws are; The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, the Inter-State Migrant Workman (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979, the Beedi Workers` Welfare Fund Act, 1976, the Building and Other Construction Workers ( Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service ) Act, 1996, the Building and Other Construction Workers` Welfare Cess Act, 1996etc. Workers engaged in iron ore, manganese ore, chrome ore, limestone, dolomite and mica mines, cine workers and beedi workers are also covered by the various welfare programme undertaken under the concerned Welfare Funds. State Governments have also launched insurance and social security schemes covering large numbers of workers engaged in specific activities like handloom weavers, rickshaw pullers, etc. Improvement in quality of employment and conditions of work of workers in the unorganised sector has been and continues to be a matter of prime concern for the Government. It is the endeavour of the Government to extend legislative protection to more and more workers in the unorganised sector.

The Government have also constituted the Second National Commission for Labour. The terms of reference of the Commission inter-alia include suggestion for formulation of an umbrella legislation to provide social security to the unorganised workers.